



New Mexico Agricultural
Statistics Service

Weekly Ag Update

Issue 53-06

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February 3, 2003

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Agricultural Prices Cattle Sheep Goats Weather Summary

Available on Internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: The January alfalfa hay price, at \$143.00 per ton, was \$1.00 below the previous month's price of \$144.00, and \$7.00 above the price of \$136.00 received one year ago. The national average for January 2003 was \$97.60 per ton. Cow prices in January increased to \$36.20 per hundredweight from the December price of \$35.70 and was \$0.70 above the national average of \$35.50 per hundredweight. Steer and heifer prices increased to \$81.40 per hundredweight compared to the \$81.30 price received in December and were \$3.70 above the U.S. average of \$77.60. The calf price of \$92.50 per hundredweight, rose from \$92.10 in December but was \$3.00 below the U.S. average of \$95.50. Milk prices dropped \$0.10 to \$11.80 in January and held steady with the U.S. average.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, December 2002 and January 2002-03

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, December 2002 and January 2003-03					
Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		Jan 2002 ^{2/}	Dec 2002 ^{2/}	Jan 2003 ^{1/}	Jan
CROPS		-----Dollars-----			
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	--	--	--	4.07
Cotton, Upland	Lb	--	--	--	.432
Potatoes	Cwt	--	--	--	6.82
Hay, all baled	Ton	134.00	140.00	139.00	92.90
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	136.00	144.00	143.00	97.60
Peanuts	Lb	--	--	--	.174
Corn	Bu	--	--	--	2.27
Wheat, all	Bu	--	--	--	3.66
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt	--	--	--	37.90
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt	--	--	--	87.20
Cows	Cwt	42.70	35.70	36.20	35.50
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	82.90	81.30	81.40	77.60
Calves	Cwt	98.30	92.10	92.50	95.50
Milk	Cwt	13.50	11.90	11.80	11.80

^{1/} Mid-month. ^{2/} Entire month. ^{3/} December - Entire Month

**2002
CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE**

We would like to thank those of you who responded to the census which will help provide official facts that represent all U.S. producers and commodities. In taking time to fill out your report you have done yourself and other American farmers and ranchers a favor - by **“Taking a stand for American Agriculture”**. Thank you again.

CATTLE INVENTORY

NEW MEXICO: January 1, 2003 inventory of **all cattle and calves** increased by 1 percent above the previous year's inventory of 1.58 million to 1.59 million. **Beef cow** inventory dropped by 6 percent to 470,000 and New Mexico ranchers maintained 90,000 heifers for **beef cow replacement**, 10,000 head less than prior year. The overall increase in inventory was aided by the continual growth in number of **milk cows**, which climbed from 290,000 to 310,000 head, a 7 percent growth for the year. Dairy producers kept 70,000 head of **dairy heifers** for replacement, a 16.7 percent increase over the number kept in 2002. Number of **steers** weighing 500 pounds and over numbered 230,000 compared to the previous year's total of 200,000. **Bulls** on hand remained steady at 50,000 head. The 2002 calf crop, including both beef and dairy calves, was estimated at 600,000, down 10,000 head from 2001. **Calves** on hand January 1, 2002 totaled 260,000 head, down by 10,000, while **cattle and calves on full feed for slaughter** on January 1, 2003, was up 10.2 percent from the previous year to 119,000 head.

UNITED STATES: All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2003, totaled 96.1 million head, 1 percent below the 96.7 million on January 1, 2002 and 1 percent below the 97.3 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.1 million, were down slightly from the 42.2 million on January 1, 2002 and down 1 percent from the 42.6 million two years ago.

Beef cows, at 32.95 million, were down 1 percent from both January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2001.

Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2002 but down slightly from two years ago.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2003 and the change from January 1, 2002, are as follows:

All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.6 million, down slightly.

Beef replacement heifers, 5.61 million, up 1 percent.

Milk replacement heifers, 4.10 million, up 1 percent.

Other heifers, 9.89 million, down 2 percent.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.6 million, down 1 percent.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.25 million, up slightly.

Calves under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, down 1 percent.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 12.9 million, down 7 percent.

The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots, 29.1 million, up 1 percent.

The 2002 calf crop was estimated at 38.2 million head, down slightly from 2001 and down 1 percent from 2000. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.9 million, down 1 percent from 2001 and down 2 percent from 2000.

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop January 1 2002-2003, New Mexico and U.S.

	New Mexico		United States	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	-----1,000 Head-----			
Cattle and Calves	1,580	1,590	96,704.0	96,106.0
Cows and Heifers that have calved	790	780	42,229.3	42,098.6
Beef Cows	500	470	33,117.7	32,946.9
Milk Cows	290	310	9,111.6	9,151.7
Heifers 500 lbs. And over				
For beef cow replacement	100	90	5,561.0	5,607.6
For milk cow replacement	60	70	4,060.2	4,103.5
Other	110	110	10,057.1	9,890.0
Steers 500 lbs. and over	200	230	16,789.8	16,590.2
Bulls 500 lbs. and over	50	50	2,243.8	2,252.7
Calves under 500 lbs.	270	260	15,762.8	15,563.4
Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter	108.0	119.0	13,860.3	12,915.8
Calf crop (previous year)	610	600	38,280.4	38,193.3

SHEEP INVENTORY

NEW MEXICO: Sheep and lamb inventory for the state on January 1, 2003 continues a downward trend, totaling 215,000 head compared to 230,000 on January 1, 2002 a decline of 7 percent. **Breeding sheep and lambs** dropped by 10,000 head to 175,000. **Market sheep and lambs** decreased by 5,000 head going from 45,000 to 40,000 head. The 2002 lamb crop at 125,000 head, declined 12 percent from the 2001 lamb crop.

UNITED STATES: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2003, totaled 6.35 million head, down 5 percent from 2002 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.68 million head on January 1, 2003, down 5 percent from 4.91 million head on January 1, 2002. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.79 million head, were 5 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2003, totaled 1.67 million head, down 6 percent from January 1, 2002. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2002 lamb crop of 4.36 million head was down 3 percent from 2001 and established a new record low. The 2002 lambing rate was 110 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2002, unchanged from 2001.

Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class and Lamb Crop, January 1, 2002-2003, New Mexico and U.S.

Class	New Mexico		United States	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	-----1,000 Head-----			
All Sheep and Lambs	230.0	215.0	6,685.0	6,350.0
Breeding Sheep and Lambs	185.0	175.0	4,913.0	4,682.0
Market Sheep and Lambs	45.0	40.0	1,772.0	1,668.0
Market Lambs under 65 lbs.	9.0	10.0	435.9	429.3
65-84 lbs.	14.0	12.0	299.9	285.7
85-105 lbs.	13.0	12.0	415.6	398.5
Over 105 lbs.	6.0	3.0	549.0	481.7
Market Sheep	3.0	3.0	71.6	72.8
Lamb crop Jan. 1 previous year ^{1/}	140.0	125.0	4,495.0	4,360.0

1/ Lamb crop is defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States

GOAT INVENTORY

Angora goats in **New Mexico** decreased by 5,000 head to 15,000 head compared to 20,000 in 2002. This compares to a slight growth in the U.S. total to 305,000 head from 302,000 head in 2002.

Goats: Inventory, Selected States and Total, January 1, 2002 - 2003

Class	Angora		All Goats	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	-----1,000 Head-----			
AZ	32	30	—	—
NM	20	15	—	—
TX	250	260	1,250	1,200
Total	302	305	1,250	1,200

WEATHER SUMMARY

Another warm and dry week was noted across the state. Despite a mid-week intrusion of cool air into the eastern plains, all stations reported weekly average temperatures well above normal ranging from about 8 degrees above normal in the south to 10 and 12 degrees above normal across the northern counties. Moisture was scarce with only a few sprinkles and snow flurries recorded across the far north as the week came to an end while most other locations suffered their first bout of desiccating strong winds on Sunday.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2, 2003

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	01/27 02/02	02/01 02/02	Normal Feb	01/01 02/02	Normal Jan-Feb
Carlsbad	52.9	81	27	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.70
Hobbs	50.4	77	27	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.89
Roswell	50.0	79	24	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.05	0.89
Clayton	47.9	73	23	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.00	0.55
Clovis	51.4	73	30	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	0.90
Roy	45.1	65	29	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.77
Tucumcari	50.4	76	25	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.00	0.73
Chama	33.6	56	13	0.00	0.00	1.58	0.12	3.35
Johnson Ranch	39.2	61	18	0.00	0.00	0.57	0.00	1.24
Capulin	42.9	66	19	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.30	0.96
Las Vegas	45.2	68	18	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.71
Los Alamos	42.7	57	30	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.01	1.66
Raton	41.6	69	17	0.00	0.00	0.54	0.02	1.01
Santa Fe	42.4	63	20	0.00	0.00	0.69	0.00	1.32
Red River	34.0	53	11	T	0.00	1.22	0.57	2.29
Farmington	41.8	61	23	T	0.00	0.57	0.14	1.16
Gallup	38.9	63	13	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.01	1.54
Grants	39.4	63	14	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	1.00
Silver City	47.3	68	27	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.18	2.41
Quemado	39.4	64	15	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.03	1.55
Albuquerque	48.6	68	31	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.90
Carrizozo	44.8	67	22	0.00	0.00	0.57	0.22	1.17
Gran Quivera	46.5	65	27	0.00	0.00	0.82	0.00	1.52
Moriarty	41.7	66	15	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.91
Ruidoso	42.9	62	23	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.14	2.28
Socorro	45.7	72	20	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.78
Alamogordo	53.4	77	30	0.00	0.00	0.54	0.00	1.21
Animas	51.8	76	29	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.02	1.19
Deming	50.3	75	26	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.01	1.02
T or C	52.0	72	27	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.84
Las Cruces	51.0	77	24	0.00	0.00	0.37	0.03	0.83

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.